

P19818.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masao AKIMOTO et al.

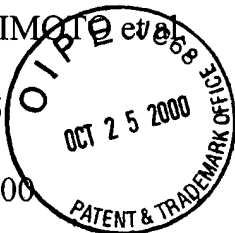
Serial No : 09/624,605

Filed : July 25, 2000

For : ERROR INFORMING APPARATUS AND ERROR INFORMING METHOD

Group Art Unit 2756 2152

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following commonly assigned patent documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 5,881,233 to TOYODA et al., issued on March 9, 1999, discussed on page 1 of the specification of the present application.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. HEI 8-242326, published on September 17, 1996, a counterpart to U.S. Patent No. 5,881,233 above, and discussed on page 1 of the specification of the present application.

U.S. Patent No. 6,094,277 to TOYODA, issued on July 25, 2000.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 form which is also attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the

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appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 form and to return a copy of the form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/104,177, filed on June 25, 1998.

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/611,365, filed on July 6, 2000.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned applications are not attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate any of the applications, Applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Masao AKIMOTO et al.

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October 25, 2000
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